

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/749,826

Examiner

Aaron M Dunwoody

Applicant(s)

ROBISON, DAVID L.

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 12/6/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-8,11-17 and 25.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 December 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20050224.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Aaron Dunwoody
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3679

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Matthew P. Dugan on 2/24/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1, 18 and 24.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A connector adapted for use with an associated fluid line, said connector comprising:

a connector body having a passage dimensioned to receive the associated fluid line;

a capturing member supported on said connector body and ~~suitable for retaining~~ the associated fluid line in said passage;

a sealing member disposed within said passage and ~~suitable for forming a fluid-tight seal~~ between said connector body and the associated fluid line:

a stiffening member disposed within said connector body along said passage, said stiffening member having a sleeve portion and a flange portion; and,

an indicator provided on said stiffening member along at least one of said sleeve portion and said flange portion and adapted to indicate that the associated fluid line has

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been received a predetermined distance into said passage ~~with said indicator provided on said stiffening member along at least one of said sleeve portion and said flange portion.~~

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A connector according to claim 4 2, wherein said capturing member includes a radially inwardly extending annular tooth suitable for engaging the associated fluid line.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A connector adapted for use with an associated fluid line having an inside wall and an outside wall, said connector comprising:

a connector body having a passage extending therethrough, said passage dimensioned to receive the associated fluid line;

a capturing member supported on said connector body and ~~suitable for retaining~~ the associated fluid line in said passage;

a sealing member disposed within said passage and ~~suitable for~~ forming a fluid-tight seal between said connector body and the outside wall of the associated fluid line;

a stiffening member disposed within said passage and at least a portion of said stiffening member is dimensioned to be received within the inside wall of the associated fluid line, said stiffening member including a flange portion and a sleeve portion; and,

an indicator disposed within said connector body at least partially along one of said flange portion and said sleeve portion, and said indicator being adapted to indicate that the associated fluid line has been received a predetermined distance into said passage.

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Claim 19. (Currently Amended) A connector adapted for use with an associated fluid line having an inside wall and an outside wall, said connector comprising:

a connector body having a first end adapted to receive the associated fluid line, a second end opposite said first end, a passage extending through said connector body between said first and second ends, and a shoulder within said passage between said first and second ends;

a capturing member supported on said connector body, said capturing member adapted to engage engaging the outside wall of the associated fluid line to retain the associated fluid line in said passage;

a sealing member disposed within said passage and ~~suitable for~~ forming a fluid-tight seal between said connector body and the associated fluid line;

a stiffening member having a sleeve portion and a flange portion, said stiffening member is positioned within said passage such that said flange portion is adjacent said shoulder, said sleeve portion dimension to be received within the inside wall of the associated fluid line; and,

an indicator disposed within said passage and adapted to indicate that the associated fluid line has been received a predetermined distance into said passage, said indicator being disposed along at least a portion of one of said flange portion and said sleeve portion of said stiffening member.

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) A connector according to claim 24 20, wherein said window is operative to provide said visually observable characteristic by

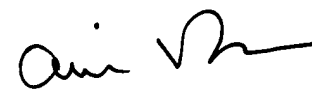
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exposing at least one of the inside wall, the outside wall and the end portion of the associated fluid line.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron M Dunwoody whose telephone number is 703-306-3436. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P Stodola can be reached on 703-306-5771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Aaron M Dunwoody
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